

F1 (b) contacting the particles obtained in (a) with a sample, wherein said sample may contain an antibody to said antigen; and

F3 (c) measuring agglutination of said particles caused by formation of antigen-antibody complex.

F2 F3 33. (Amended) A method for increasing immunological reactivity of a polypeptide in an agglutination immunoassay utilizing agglutination of particles on which said polypeptide is bound, said method comprising binding a nucleic acid to said polypeptide through a nucleic acid-binding motif in said polypeptide.

BASIS FOR THE AMENDMENT

Claims 25 and 33 have been amended.

The amendment of Claims 25 is supported by the Examples, pages 3-5, and pages 7-12. The amendment of Claim 33 is supported by Example 5 (pages 27-29).

No new matter is believed to be entered by the present amendments.

REMARKS

At the outset, Applicants would like to thank Examiner Hines for the indication that the rejections over Takahara et al in view of Weiner et al, in further view of Ono et al; over Takahara et al in view of Gibbons; and over Takahara et al, in view of Gibbons, in further view of Ono et al have been withdrawn (paper number 17, page 2, paragraphs 2-4). Reconsideration of the current grounds of rejection is requested in view of the following remarks.

The rejection of Claims 33-35 under 35 U.S.C. §102 over Thomas et al is traversed.